19-YEAR-OLD SENSATION IS PRODUCT OF NEW YORK'S BACKYARD BOXING SCHOOL

Benny Leonard. Who Recently Outclassed Champion Welsh, Learned His Marvellously Clever Stuff in Bouts With Playmates in the Bronx, and Was Champion of the Block When He Was Nine.

Copyright, 1916, by The Press Publishing Co. (The New York Evening World) O GO right back to the beginning, Benny Leonard was born at Eighth Street and Avenue C, New York City, April 7, 1896. When he whipped Freddy Welsh a few nights ago he was still nineteen. boxers who have reached true championship form at the age of nineteen is extremely short.



There are three fighting Leonards: Willie, Benny and Charlie. Only Wil-He doesn't fight any more. He's chief second for the other two. As for Benny and Charlie, Benny is undoubtedly the best lightweight in the world at the present time, and if he can induce Champion Freddy Welsh to meet him where a referee's dedsion can be given there's little doubt that he'll be champion and holder of the lightweight title as well.

Billy Gibson, manager, Benny Leonard and Charite Leonard called

almost exactly of the same height. Benny is just two years older, and he weighs about six pounds more than Charles. As for the records of the two-it would be hard to say which is most sensational. Benny is wideawake, quick-eyed, high strung. Charlie is smiling, soft spoken, and rather

languid in appearance. Benny looks what he is-the keen and active fighting man. Charlle doesn't look what he is, for under the languid air and behind the dark, heavy-lidded eyes is concealed the pep of a stick of dyna-

"The first purse I ever fought for was in one of the little scraps in the circle between the flower beds. There was another kid-Joe Fogarty-and we were pretty well matched. They passed the hat and took up a collection to make a purse. There was fifty cents in the hat. We agreed to split it 60-40, like the champions. I stopped Fogarty in the fourth round and got thirty cents for my end. He got twenty cents as the loser's end. My uncle acted as my manager and Joe to meet me for a decision."

Johnny Reilly that night. While we were looking some of the kids crowded and broke the window. The watchand broke the window. The watch-man used to let some of us in to see the bouts, but this night when he heard the window break he ran out and grabbed two or three of us. He got me. He took us in to where Mr.

Glison was. You remember that "
"Sure," said Billy Gibson, taking off his green hat and rubbing his head. "I remember that. Let me tell it. The watchman brought you in and told me about the broken window. He said: 'What d'ya mean, breaking in the way?' And you only had one. in that way? And you only had one thing in your mind. You popped out: I can lick all those fellows in there.' You looked as if you meant it too. The preliminaries were over, so I couldn't give you a chance that night I told you to come around the next

66 VES," said Benny. "That was Y my start. I came around Saturday and went on with Mickey Jinnegan, I knocked him out and Mr. Gibson paid me \$5 himseif. That was my first purse in a real bout. When I got out all the kids in the neighborhood were waiting for me, and we had a party and spent the \$5 for ice cream and cakes. Gee, that was some party! I have one after each fight. We keep the house open until late, and all our friends in the neighborhood are welcome. Mother has lemonade and cake for the boys. The night I fought Weish and in the street in front that "After that first fight in the Pair-mont I boxed every week. I hus get in for a long time. that first fight in the Fair-

THE WHITE ELEPHANT **BOWLING & BILLIARD ACADEMY**

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Billiards Towling REPAIRS BY EXPERT MECHANICS. The Brunswick Stalks Collegeder Co.

seven four-round bouts, and then boxed Kid Herman in my first star bout. The papers gave me the de-cision. I never had any other man-ager than Mr. Gibson. He just put me on at the Fairmont Club for a long concealed the pep of a stick of dynamite. In action Charles is explosive. He likes to win his battles within thirty seconds of the first gong.

64 BEGAN boxing when I was about nine years old," said Henny. We used to box in the back yard. My uncle always took an interest in our boxing and encouraged us to stick to it. The yard was full of flower beds, with a circular spot of smooth earth in the middle. We used the circle for a ring. I boxed with all the other boys around the neighborhood and up and down the street. Sometimes I boxed with the big fellows. We just boxed for fun. After a while I was known as the champion of the street. I was preity fast.

That's professional. How many in the saidtenance of the street. I was preity fast.

That's professional. How many in the saidtenance of the street. I was preity fast.

That's professional. How many in the saidtenance of the size of the saidtenance of the size of the saidtenance.

"That's professional. How many to the aniathurs?"
"Nineteen knockouts in twenty-on fights, amateur. That's twenty-five knockouts in twenty-eight fights," said Charlie, smiling.

"He's the best fighter in the family," declared Benny. "When Charlie went to the Coast he came back and told me there was one champion in the family any way. I hope there'll be another one I think there will if I can get Welsh

have my end of the purse. He didn't take out a percentage.

"Whe I was fourteen we moved up "Willie fought a fellow at the Fair-

"'Don't stop, Willie,' I said. 'You're only half licked.' "If I'm only half licked, you come in and get the other half, said Willie that he could fight, and knocked out a fellow at the New Polo, and then went back to business. Now he only boat could do over the four-mile in-

HAT do you consider the most important thing above boxing?" I asked. "The most important thing is

taking cars of yourself," said Benny. "No man who smokes or drinks can do his best work at anything. An athlete can't anything. I never had a smoke or a drink in my life, and I never will have. I can thank my mother for that. I've taken her ader for that. I've taken her advice. I'll never do anything I wouldn't want my mother to know about, and as long as I stick to that I'll be fit to do my best. I go home and to bed every night at 10 o'clock to get plenty of sleep. Every time I fight I run to the telephone the minute the bout is over and phone my mother, so she won't worry about me. I'd do that if I was fighting in California.

"I want the honor of bringing the championship back to America. I know I can do it. Welsh lasted through ten rounds by holding and clinching and pushing me around,

know I can do it. Weish lasted through ten rounds by holding and clinching and pushing me around, but I could feel him weakening. He's a wonder at setting away with holding stunts. He can hold your arms and push you around and make it look as if he was on the aggressive I have my own way of hoxing, and I'm satisfied I can fight twenty rounds as easily as ten. I try to out hox my man and make him tire. I made Weish miss me by feinting and drawing him out and then pulling back a little. I had him floundering around. After five or six rounds I go to to finish it. I did that with Weish, but although I had him going there wasn't time enough to get a fellow so clever at stalling. In twenty rounds I twill be a different fight. There'll be an American champion when it's over. That's sure!"

Bratton is captain, a veteran of three Columbia crews and one of the finest oarsmen Rice ever saw. "Give me a boat of Brattons," said the

Game Today, 815 P. WANKEES

BEST SPORTING PAGE IN NEW YORK

ONLY 19 AND HE BEAT THE CHAMPION



(Special to The Evening World.)
MILWAUKEE, Wis., April 8.—
Freddie Weish, the lightweight
champion, had a shade the better
of a fast ten-round fight with
Ritchie Mitchell of Milwaukee last
night. The local boy was outweighed by ten pounds, but put up
a great battle. Weish gained his
shide on the score of blows landed, the champion excelling in the ed, the champion excelling in the infighting. At close range and in the clinches he was unbeatable. Early in the fight he discovered that Mitchell was an adept at protecting his jaw, but was weak on the defensive below the pack. So the defensive below the neck. So the champion went to work and proceeded to pound Ritchie in the

Fistic News and Gossip - By John Pollock ---

Frank Moran in the ninth round of their out now, I tell you."
second contest in Madison Square GarBy that the Yank manager, a esi gooi heavyweights. They will come pend on a hit to drive him in.

to fight Jack Britton a treenty-round battle for proved availing, the welterweight championship title at Dominick. The sudden

good bouter-stated for its regular weekly boxing short to-night. In one of them theorgic Thompson, the fast bantamweight, formerly of California, the posmising east side boxer, while in the main go Charley Leonard, brother of Bonny Leonard, will beak up with Tomps House of Finds and the stage of the control of of the cont will book up with Tommy Houck of Philadelphia

Harry tiattle of Portchester is signed up for two fights by his manager, Jimus Howard. His first will be with Jimus O'Hagan, the Albany weltersweight, for ten rounds at the Knickerbecker A. C. of Albany on Tuesday night and his second with Tomms Holson, the promising local fighter. for ten names at the Pairmont A. C. of the Bronx on Saturday evening, April 15,

whether he wins or loses in his ten-round bout with Johann Innibes at the Broadway sporting Club of Broadway night, Phil Bloom, the Broadway inght, Phil Bloom, the Broadway inght wight, will take on Benny Lesinard for ten rounds at the Stadium A. C. on April 20. Bloom will be in Stadium A. C. on the game week the work of Ferdie

Now York that will take place at the study of the Duplex Motion Picture Corporation, No. 178 Pulton Street, to morrow afternoon at a o'clock. This presentation is only for sporting writers and friends.

Frankle Wagner, the hard-hitting Jorsey City middleweight, who boxes Henry Hauber at the National A. C. of Philadelphia, Pa., to-night, has just been signed up for two matches by Silver Burns. Wagner will exchange punches with Jimmy Conway of Scranton at South Rethiehem, Pa., on April 11, and on the 26th he clashes with Jimmy Miller at Khaner. But

Through Hit-and-Run, A Play Donovan Dislikes

American League Team Manager Advised His Men Not to Use Sure Defeat Into Victory.

By Bozeman Bulger.

HB one play that upset the

"Say, you fellows, I want you to Jim Coffey, the Irish heavyweight, who | cut out that hit-and-run stuff now as not fought since he was stopped by and go in to make some runs. Cut it

den, four months ago, was matched to-day by his manager, Billy Gibson. His that he wanted his men to advance opponent will be Jack Geyer, the Denver that he wanted his men to advance the runner with a bunt and then de-

together in a ten-round bout at a boxing show to be held by the Stadium A. C. in same hit-and-run play, so strongly show to be held by the Stadium A. C. in Manhattan Opera House on next Thursday night. Coffey has been training for two weeks at the New Polo A. A. of first metropolitan appearance. It is was a two-base hit, two singles, a Ted "Kid" Lewis, the English boxer, who is rifice play attempted by the Yanks Larry's mind that doped out

The sudden joit came in the seventh inning when the Giants were seventh inning when the Giants were "Whe I was fourteen we moved up to One Hundred and Sixty-fifth and to One high the Columbia of the Co ond, expecting the play there. As he did so Doyle smashed a clean single through the hole that had been left

Instead of merely advancing a runner this put two men on the bases with none out and Lobert sacrificed. Kauff's base on balls filled the bases. and the stage was set for Merkle's

Bronk on Saturday evening. April 15.

Those two fast little baniamseights of Brook in the principals, in the main bout of ten rounds at the principals, in the main bout of ten rounds at the boxing show of the Brookin its main bout of ten rounds at the boxing show of the Brookin its main bout of ten rounds at the boxing show of the Brookin its main bout of ten rounds at the boxing show of the Brookin its main bout of ten rounds at the boxing show of the Brookin its main bout of ten rounds at the Polo Grounds to-day.

There were no stiffened muscles, no limps and no hesitancy about sliding when hitting the dirt was not be belief at the Stadium A. C. shows in the weak with the stick and longer weak with the building was ever used for a the building was ever used for a

then leave for his home in San Francisco, starting on Wednesday. Meelan will fight Larry Williams at the Olimpia A. A. of Philadelphia on that few training days have been Wasted. To the 5,000 fans, hardly knowing

> Schupp, the Glant left-hander, He pitched steadily the whole nine innings. McGraw seeing no necessity for relieving him as Donovan did Caldwell. The young left-hander has all the stuff that a pitcher needs and his chance of being a star depends on his aptness in learning hose to use it. Schupp gave but three bases on balls, and was much steadier than Cullop. His real test came in the ninth inning when the Yanks got two men on with none out. He gathered him-self together, though, and got rid

of Baumann, Maisel and Gil-

The crowd was impressed with

Joe Gedeon. His slashing drives

were appreciated as much as

those of Home Run Baker. Out

of four times up Gedeon got three singles, a stolen base and scored one of the Yanks' two

play responsible for the victory

Swimming Meet

Carded To-Day

Four hundred schoolboy swimmers representing the leading elementary

schools of this city, will make an at-

tempt to hang up several new rec-

ords to-day when they clash in the

elementary indoor swimming cham-

pionships, which will be held at the Public Baths, No. 232 West Sixtieth

fident that his boys will have little trouble winning this year's event, al-though strong teams have been en-tered from Public Schools Nos. 10, 40.

In the three game bowling match

and Chicago five-men teams of the

Western Union Company held last

CARL MORRIS WINS FIERCE

BOUT OVER GUNBOAT SMITH

(Special to The Brening World.)
TUSLA, Okla., April 8.—Carl Morris

This Kind of Strategy in Their Training Camp. Yet It Is the Play That McGraw's Men Used to Turn What Seemed Like

THE one play that upset the Yanks, giving the Giants the first winning notch on the spring series, by an odd coincidence, is the very one that Bill Donovan doesn't like and rarely uses. Less than a month ago at the Macon training grounds orders like this, in Wild Will's deep bass voice, could be heard plainly in the grandstand:

Description of the Though Benny Kauff got no hits, he gave Ray Caldwell quite a surprise by his failure to hit at bad balls. Most of the big league pitchers are of the impression that Kauff is a wild swinger and will take a "Moriarty" at anything. But Benny fooled them. On two occasions he kept the bat on his shoulder and got his base on balls. The first time he laughed heartily at Caldwell's effort to fool him. hooley in quick order.

There are five events scheduled.
Public School No. 2 of Brooklyn won
the championship last year, and
Principal William F. Rainey is con-Harry Gattle of Portchester is signed up for the two runs.

In one quick move the Giants had not one quick

Withis Mechan, the childs beavyweight of Calforms, who has taken part in eight bests since
the came East, getting the new samer decisions in
all of them, will engage in one more buttle and

The Giants, on the child in the phad
grown careless on the training tour,
worked with a snap that brought to
memory the championship days 1911.

all of them, will engage in one more buttle and

12 and 13. Every man apparently is night the former were victorious, rolling a total score of 2.829 against their opponents 2.215. A large score board erected by Tom Clark of the Universal Aileys, Brooklyn, where the New York men bowled, kept the large attendance informed of the Western men's efforts.

With "Bugs" Baer

'M people rush away from publicity with all the speed of a fly spending the week-end on Tanglefoot."

Baseball prospects from Cleveland adicate that it is a beautiful spring,

takes in movies unless it's the third day at Gettysburg.

Can't imagine what part Kid Broad

n your ere on an oll laurning road,

Apparently Joe Wood hasn't decided whether he could get away with that masked marvel stuff at Harvard

Counting the one entered by Mike Kahoe, there are now 3,492 second Ty

Kid Pershing won't let Villa take his marbles out of the game and go home If Johnny Evers scuttles on the see ideways you know it is going to be a

Reformers should know that those big, brutal, Manager Herzog believes that no

practice game is complete without a practice fine. This is one season when the

Yankes fans will not keep one eye on the game and the other on the

A bullet couldn't get by Les Canadiens' gos

Put Benny Leonard in a ring with Charley White and both of 'em will be too busy to wonder how much the city of Venice saves each year or, street sprinklers,

the three-custom title a citizen of the wrong ude of the Rio Grande. Revised proverb says that barking

Ellis frustrated Pierre Maucome's plan to make

birds don't bitc. Only fault with the Springfever

Six is tire trouble. Ask the man ANSWERS TO QUERIES.

X. X. X .- Chick Gandil is alive, but in Cleveland.

R. M.-Western women will fight saloons with 600,000 eggs. Purchase an adding machine and figure this

Y. I. P .- You are pretty dense when you are thicker than the mosquitoes, WITH CHICAGO BY WIRE B. & O .- This can be explained on pathological grounds. It's the same influence that makes a butcher weigh by telegraph between the New York

> RUFF .-- He was released to Minneapolis, 1897. Nothing about tortoise shell spectacles in the Declaration of Independence. Ty Cobb is better Easily. No. Yes.

> The dinassurus is according all the rough language and abuse hursed his way with a dig-nified elicone.



TUSI.A. Okia. April 8.—Carl Morris, the Okiahoma fireman, won a fierce battle from Gunboat Smith of New York last night. Morris put up a fast fight and slammed the navy man with rights and lefts. In the fourth round Carl smeared the Gunner on the right eye, and after this session the New Yorker had to do battle with only one optic in operation, one eye being closed.

George Thompson vs. Jack Rayles. Chesricy Leonard vs. Tommy Houck.

STADIUM A.C. MANHATTAN OF ERA STATION AND TOWN AND STADIUM &C MANHATTAN OPERA SI ST. SAC MANHATTAN OPERA SI SAC 16-Bound Bouts Adm. TO-NIGHT

Columbia Crew Is Speedy, But Its Staying Power Is Worrying Jim Rice

Columbia Coach Says Bratton, Varsity Captain, Is Best Oarsman He ever Saw and With Boatful Like Him Poughkeepsie Regatta Would Be No Contest.

seconds us when we fight. He likes business better."

business better."

boat could do over the four-like four-like and the collegiate course at Poughkeepsie. It would be a gamble. The shell twould be a gamble. The shell to be a pretty formidable crew.

But the Columbia varsity should prove to be a pretty formidable crew.

But the Blue and White

Columbia seem a "Look at 'em," said the coach, as sty boat is practically the same combination that lacked Yale last fall freshmen, who sent up young mountains of spray after every pull. "Most of them have never been in a shell before, and I must develop a winning to the same to be a second of them have never been in a shell before, and I must develop a winning to be a second of them have never been in a shell before, and I must develop a winning to be a second of them have never been in a shell before, and I must develop a winning the second of them have never been in a shell before and I must develop a winning the second of them have never been in a shell before and I must develop a winning the second of them have never been in a shell before and I must develop a winning the second of them have never been in a shell before and I must develop a winning the second of them have never been in a shell before and I must develop a winning the second of them have never been in a shell before and I must develop a winning the second of the seco Morningside rowers a lot of much

needed confidence. in the matter of material Columbia could stand considerable improvement. The return of football last for candidates. At no time did he have over thirty-five men out for the varsity boots. Over at Edgewater, N. J., yesterday afternoon but thirty-

THE Columbia 1916 varsity crew is coach, "and there wouldn't be any race" at Poughkeepsia Columbia of accepting one-third of the gross receipts. Brit. "Oh, Willie is the oldest and he started fighting first," said Benny.
"Willie fought a fellow at the Fairmont one night and we were in his Rice to-day predicted a Columbia.

THE Columbia 1916 varsity crew is coach, and there wouldn't be any of accepting one-third of the gross receipts. Belt. One run behind. George at Poughkeepsie. Columbia to set a guarantee of \$1,500 with an op-off with a beautiful line smash to could get thoroughly warmed up."

Bratton has been shifted to stroke mext batter, made one stab as if to bunk, throwing the infield in a single to a single to bunk, throwing the infield in a single to a single to

LEONARD.

staying power. To develop more en- after only a couple of days' practice durance in the Columbia boat is on the river, shows surprisingly good Rice's present problem. The veteran form. The combination works well with veteral states only a couple of days' practice staying power.

durance in the Columbia boat is durance in the Columbia boat is form. The combination works well with very little splashin. It has shown speed on different occasions, but the only thing lacking is endurance.

HAT do you consider the might go the full distance in fast time But the Blue and White freshman candidates form a curious lot. Some or it might stop "dead" at the threemile mark.

While Rice is uncertain about his
crew's power, rowing conditions at
Columbia seem a little brighter than
that's about all.

erew in a few months. A sweet job,

The outdoor practise at present for the freshmen crews at least, consists of a daily row of several miles, with the trying out of different combinayear failed to induce any young the trying out of different combina-tions. Sometimes the first-year shells huskles to report for crew work. Rice go further. One freshmen crew went fairly had to "beat up" the campus for candidates. At no time did he have over thirty-five men out for the was perched on his chest when he tried to roll out of bed. This is some-thing Rice always trys to guard against, overwork on the youngsters'

> While talking about his crews Rice asked the writer to deny the rumors year in order to go to Cornell

"I have a contract with Colum-"I have a contract with Columbia that has two more years to run," said the coach, "and I couldn't break it even if I wanted to. If the college didn't want me I could have gone to Yale several years ago when I received a very favorable offer. This talk about favorable offer. This talk about my resigning and geing with Cornell is pure bunk. Why, Courtney is good for ten years as a coach. Some menths ago Courtney asked me to call on him at Ithaca about an accident policy he had. I did and this probably gave the excuse for publishing stories that I would get his job. Mr. Courtney has no idea of quitting his job at Cornell and I surely haven't any thought of leaving Columbia."